AB June 1920

B14408

The Briſtol Addreſs.

To the Right Worſhipful

Sir RICHARD HART, Kt. and THOMAS EARLE, Eſq;

NOW CHOSEN

Repreſentatives in Parliament

For this City of

BRISTOL.

WE Citizens and Freeholders of this City, hold our ſelves obliged to return you our hearty thanks for your exemplary Loyalty to the King, and preſent eſtabliſhment in Church and State, notwithſtanding all the Deſigns, here or elſewhere, to vilifie or ſubvert them under the ſpecious pretences of *Arbitrary Power* and *Popery*, hoping you will act with all expreſſions of Duty and Allegiance to the King, of whoſe good affections to his people and the eſtabliſhed Religion, we have no doubt, though ill men have indeavoured to ſuggeſt other opinions to his Subjects. And, as you are our Repreſentatives, we lay before you theſe ſeverals.

I. That ſome expedient by Law may be endeavoured to puniſh ſuch as ſhall inſinuate into the people any deſigns in our King or Government to ſet up Arbitrary Power, or ſhall calumniate the profeſſed Sons of the Church of *England* (His Majeſties moſt Dutiful and Loyal Subjects) as Papiſts, and men of Arbitrary Principles.

II. That no Laws be Repealed whereby the Church or State may be leſs ſecured againſt their Enemies, but ſuch new Laws may be added to thoſe now in force that may effectually defend them from the Horrid and Helliſh Plots of the Papiſts, and from a ſecond Ruin and Deſolation by the underhand-contrivances, and reſtleſs endeavours, of ambitious and Fanatical Parties.

III. That

III. That you preſerve the Prerogatives of the Crown, and the Propety of the People; That the King and His Succeſſors may be aſſured of our Duty and Allegiance, and we receive from them Mercy and Juſtice: Then will God bleſs us whilſt we ſerve him and his Anointed, *and Righteouſneſs and Peace ſhall kiſs each other.*

IV. That you endeavour to preſerve us from illegal Impriſonments and exactions of Fees by our Fellow-Subjects, leſt we be enſlaved under Arbitrary Power (as in the late Rebellion) contrary to *Magna Charta*, and other good Laws; but if any ſhall offend let them be puniſhed in ſuch ſort as the Law directs.

V. That the King be ſupplied with money to ſecure us from the power of *France* at Land and Sea, that what Alliances the King hath or ſhall make for defence of *Europe*, and the Proteſtant Religion, may be performed; and our Merchants encouraged to ſend forth thoſe large Adventures they are inclined unto, if they could be ſecured by good Fleets in the four Seas and remoter parts: They being at preſent greatly apprehenſive that the *French* may poſſeſs their Eſtates at pleaſure at Sea, as he doth thoſe of the Subjects to the Empire on Land, from whence cometh a Diminution of Trade in the Kingdom.

In endeavouring theſe particulars you will truly repreſent Us.

Briſtol, this 7th. *March* 1680.

Subſcribed by moſt of the Aldermen, Council, and ſeveral Hundreds of His Majeſties Loyal Subjects of the ſame City.

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